

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

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|----------------------|--|------------------|-----------------|
| <b>Applicant(s):</b> | Toshiro Okamura, et al.  | <b>Examiner:</b> | Unassigned      |
| <b>Serial No:</b>    | To be assigned   | <b>Art Unit:</b> | Unassigned      |
| <b>Filed:</b>        | Herewith   | <b>Docket:</b>   | 17074           |
| <b>For:</b>          | APPARATUS FOR DETECTING<br>MAGNETIC FLUID IDENTIFYING<br>SENTINEL-LYMPH NODE | <b>Dated:</b>    | October 3, 2003 |

Mail Stop Patent Application  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-150

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Sir:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, it is requested that the following references, which are also listed on the attached Form PTO-1449, be made of record in the above-identified case.

1. U.S. Patent No. U.S. 6,205,352 B1, dated March 20, 2001, issued to Carroll;
2. U.S. Patent No. 5,857,463, dated January 12, 1999, issued to Thurston et al.;
3. Japanese Patent Application Laid Open No. 2001-299676, published October 30, 2001 together with an English language abstract;

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**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY "EXPRESS MAIL"**

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 C.F.R. § 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, Mail Stop Patent Application, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Dated: October 3, 2003

  
Thomas Spinelli

4. Japanese Patent Application Laid Open No. 9-189770, published July 22, 1997 together with an English language abstract;
5. Japanese Patent Application Laid Open No. 10-96782, published April 14, 1998 together with an English language abstract; and
6. Tanaka, S., et al., "Sentinel Node Biopsy by using High Tc SQUID Sensor", Journal of Japan Biomagnetism and Biomagnetics Society (Special Issue) Vol. 15, No. 1, 2002.

Applicants are submitting copies references 3-6. References 1 and 2 are not being submitted herewith, as copies of U.S. patents are no longer required per the waiver of 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(2)(i) in effect as of June 30, 2003. The relevance of references 1 and 3-6 has been described in the specification.

Inasmuch as this Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted in accordance with the schedule set out in 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b), no statement or fee is required.

Respectfully submitted,



Thomas Spinelli  
Registration No.: 39,533

Scully, Scott, Murphy & Presser  
400 Garden City Plaza  
Garden City, New York 11530  
(516) 742-4343

TS:cm

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| <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION</b><br><i>(Use several sheets if necessary)</i> | Docket Number (Optional)<br><b>17074</b>       | Application Number<br><b>To be assigned</b> |
|  | Applicant(s)<br><b>Toshiro Okamura, et al.</b> |   |
|  | Filing Date<br><b>Herewith</b>                 | Group Art Unit<br><b>Unassigned</b>         |

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

| *EXAMINER<br>INITIAL | REF | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE      | NAME            | CLASS | SUBCLASS | FILING DATE<br>IF APPROPRIATE |
|----------------------|-----|-----------------|-----------|-----------------|-------|----------|-------------------------------|
|                      |     | US 6,205,352 B1 | 3/20/2001 | Carroll         |       |          |                               |
|                      |     | 5,857,463       | 1/12/1999 | Thurston et al. |       |          |                               |
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**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

| REF | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE       | COUNTRY | CLASS | SUBCLASS | Translation |    |
|-----|-----------------|------------|---------|-------|----------|-------------|----|
|     |                 |            |         |       |          | YES         | NO |
|     | 2001-299676     | 10/30/2001 | Japan   |       |          | ✓           |    |
|     | 9-189770        | 7/22/1997  | Japan   |       |          | ✓           |    |
|     | 10-96782        | 4/14/1998  | Japan   |       |          | ✓           |    |
|     |                 |            |         |       |          |             |    |
|     |                 |            |         |       |          |             |    |

**OTHER DOCUMENTS** *(Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)*

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|  |  | Tanaka, S., et al., "Sentinel Node Biopsy by using High Tc SQUID Sensor", Journal of Japan Biomagnetism and Biomagnetics Society (Special Issue) Vol. 15, No. 1, 2002 |
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| EXAMINER | DATE CONSIDERED |
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EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP Section 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.